Mountain Weather Forecast

Southwest Highlands

Including Ben Nevis, Glen Coe and the rest of Lochaber, Argyll including the Isles, Loch Lomond, Trossachs and Arran

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Wednesday 13 Jan 2021 until 23:59 on Thursday 14 Jan 2021

Forecast Issued on Tuesday 12 Jan 2021 at 16:33 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High, for snow slowly spreading from west Wednesday and turning to rain at lower levels, but Low confidence for how quickly milder air spreads in, for snow amounts, snow level and for how quickly things improve on Thursday.

Headline for Wednesday 13 Jan 2021: Dry, bright start in northeast, but snow, with rain at low levels in far southwest and this will gradually spread northeast through the morning, with snow likely to fall to most levels inland

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 13 Jan 2021

Blizzards
Medium Likelihood

Heavy Snow
High Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
No Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Heavy snow	Light snow
Precipitation probability							
00%	00%	10%	30%	70%	90%	>95%	>95%

Forecast for Wednesday 13 Jan 2021

Weather: Dry, cold and frosty overnight but cloud increasing with thicker and lower cloud in southwest by dawn, bringing some snow, but falling as rain below around 500m. Rain will attempt to move inland in morning and could fall onto frozen surfaces bringing treacherous icy conditions, but for the most part it will fall as snow as it spreads inland even to lower levels. Snow will be heavy at times with blizzard conditions over even the modest tops and a good deal of hill fog will form, this becoming extensive down to low levels in southwest.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80% overnight, but 40% in southwest by morning, with cloud down to 600m. Chance lowering through the morning, generally no chance by afternoon with extensive cloud down to 450m, but lower at times in south and west.

Visibility: Very good overnight, falling poor as snow arrives in morning, but very poor with heavy snow and almost nil in blizzard conditions.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Wednesday 13 Jan 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	9/10 NE	7/9 SE	6/8 SE	8/10 SE	12/15 SE	14/18 SE	16/20 SE	18/23 SE	18/23 SE
900	3/3 W	4/5 SE	7/9 SE	12/16 SE	14/17 SE	16/20 SE	17/22 SE	17/23 SE	14/20 SE
600	4/5 NE	4/5 NE	4/6 NE	5/7 S	7/9 SE	7/10 SE	9/13 S	11/15 SE	9/13 SE
300	3/3 NE	3/4 NE	4/5 NE	3/6 E	5/10 E	6/14 E	7/14 E	12/22 E	11/19 SE
Glen	1/3 E	3/6 E	3/7 E	4/10 NE	3/8 E	3/7 SE	4/9 S	4/8 S	5/9 SE

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1300	-3/-8	-2/-7	-2/-6	-1/-5	-1/-6	-2/-8	-2/-9	-3/-10	-3/-10
900	-8/-11	-3/-6	-3/-7	-3/-8	-2/-8	-2/-8	-2/-9	-2/-9	-2/-8
600	-0/-3	-0/-2	0/-2	1/-1	2/-2	2/-1	2/-2	2/-3	2/-2
300	0/-1	1/-1	1/-1	2/1	3/1	3/0	2/-0	2/-2	2/-2
Glen	-1/-2	1/-1	1/-1	2/-0	3/1	2/0	3/1	3/2	4/2
Freezing Level*	100m	100m	100m	100m	400m	1000m	800m	800m	1000m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Marked wind chill, with snow and blizzard conditions spreading inland. Despite freezing main freezing level rising to around 1000m, for the most part temperatures will be close to zero C above around 500m

Forecast for Thursday 14 Jan 2021

Weather: Snow turning to rain below 600m before clearing through the morning, then a drier and brighter afternoon, but perhaps a few snow showers into Lochaber. Widespread icy conditions developing again later, with freezing fog patches.

Maximum wind: Southeast 5-10mph becoming northwest 20 gust 30mph in morning but easing 5-10mph in afternoon.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: Almost nil at first, but chance around 70% by the afternoon with well broken cloud over the tops, though occasionally down to 500m in any showers.

Visibility: Poor or very poor becoming mainly good by the afternoon.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 2 to 4 C, but minus 1 C later
At 800m: Zero C rising to plus 2 or 3 C
Freezing level: 800m rising to 1200m for a time, then falling to 600m.

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